

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 26-44 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-25 are canceled without prejudice and new Claims 26-44 are added by the present amendment.

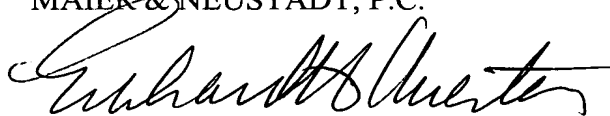
The present application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. parent application Serial No. 09/531,518, filed March 21, 2000.

New independent Claim 26 and dependent Claims 27-34, which depend on Claim 26, are directed to an agent system for processing information; new independent Claim 35 and dependent Claims 36-43, which depend on Claim 35, are directed to a method for processing information by an agent; and new Claim 44 is directed to a computer program product causing a computer to process information by an agent. Support for independent Claims 26, 35, and 44 is found in Applicants' originally filed Specification.¹ Support for dependent Claims 27-34 and 36-43 is also found in Applicants' originally filed Specification.² It is believed no new matter is added.

Consequently, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ Specification at least at page 10, line 10, to page 17, line 21, and Figures 2-5.

² Specification at least at page 19, line 1, to page 31, line 5, and Figures 6-11.